

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 DPW-01 SSO-00 FDRE-00 SAM-01 IO-10 A-01

OPR-02 SY-05 SCCT-01 /093 W  
----- 078604

R 181834Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8665

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VS, US

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE STUDENTS "OPEN LETTER" FOR AID TO  
GVN

SUMMARY: ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 18 FOUR VIETNAMESE STUDENTS SAW CHARGE TO DELIVER AN "OPEN LETTER" TO THE PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. CLAIMING TO REPRESENT STUDENTS IN FRANCE' THEY ASKED THE UNITED STATES TO KEEP THEIR PROMISES TOWARD ALLIED COUNTRIES OF THE FREE WORLD, AND ESPECIALLY THEIR PROMISES OF ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SVN. CHARGE ACCEPTED LETTER AND SAID HE WOULD FORWARD IT TO THE DEPARTMENT. END SUMMARY

1. THIS AFTERNOON, APRIL 18, FOUR VIETNAMESE STUDENTS CALLED ON ME TO DELIVER AN "OPEN LETTER" TO THE PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. THE STUDENTS WERE THE FOLLOWING: LE TAT TO (STUDENT OF ECONOMICS IN PARIS, BORN IN HANOI), TRAN BAC NGHIA (STUDENT OF ECONOMICS IN PARIS, BORN IN NHATRANG), MISS NGO VAN KHUONG (STUDENT OF ADMINISTRATION IN PARIS, BORN IN HAIPHONG), LE XUAN DIEN (STUDENT  
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OF PHARMACY IN LILLE, BORN IN SAIGON). THEY SAID THAT

THEY REPRESENTED NOT ONLY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE STUDENTS OF THE PARIA AREA AND OF LILLE, BUT OTHER STUDENTS IN FRANCE, BELGIUM AND WEST GERMANY WHO HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO PARIS. THEY ESTIMATED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE THEY REPRESENTED WAS BETWEEN NINE AND TEN THOUSAND.

BEGIN VERBATIM TEXT:

"OPEN LETTER

TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MEMBERS OF US CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE-

WE, VIETNAMESE STUDENTS AND WORKERS IN FRANCE, TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND YOU THAT:

(1) STRONGLY-SUPPORTED BY THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS ARE LAUNCHING AN AGGRESSIVE WAR AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAM, IN OPEN DISREGARD OF PARIS AGREEMENT, WITH COMPLICITY OF COMMUNIST SUPER POWERS.

(2) THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARE DETERMINED TO FIGHT UNTIL THE LAST BLOOD DROP AND THE LAST BULLET TO PRESERVE THEIR FREEDOM AND TO GIVE EXAMPLE FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT LIVE IN SLAVERY.

(3) HAVING BEEN FOR CENTURIES, FIGHTING FOR THE IDEAL OF FREEDOM, THE UNITED-STATES OF AMERICA HAVE GENEROUSLY PROVIDED FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE WITH MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AIDS. WE, THEREFORE, ARE CONVINCED THAT THE UNITED-STATES CANNOT ABANDON THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, A LONG-DATED ALLY OF THE UNITED-STATES.

FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED REASONS,

WE DEMAND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO KEEP THEIR PROMISES TOWARDS ALLIED COUNTRIES OF THE FREE WORLD, AND SPECIALLY THEIR PROMISES OF ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH VIETNAM, VICTIM OF THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS.

WE DEMAND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO FULFILL THE ENGAGEMENTS OF THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN HELPING OUR PEOPLE AND TROOPS TO FIGHT FOR THEIR SURVIVAL AND FREEDOM.

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WE EARNESTLY APPEAL TO THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO REEXAMINE THEIR CONSCIENCE AND TO GIVE THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE THE MEANS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AND THEIR FREEDOM.

IF THE SOUTH VIETNAM ENTERS COLLAPSE, HOW COULD THE FREE WORLD PEOPLE KEEP ON THEIR TRUST IN THE TRUST IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA? HOW COULD THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FORGET THE SOUVENIR OF THOUSANDS OF THEIR BELOVED

CHILDREN WHO SACRIFIED THEIR LIVES FOR LIBERTY'S SAKE?  
IN THIS CASE, THEIR SACRIFICE WILL BE CONSIDERED MEANING-  
LESS.

WE CRITICALLY REQUEST THE CONGRESS TO STUDY CAREFULLY  
DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM BEFORE ANY DECISION

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OPR-02 SY-05 SCCT-01 /093 W  
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R 181834Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8666

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TAKEN. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT AND MEASURELESS DECISION OF  
HISTORIC VALUE. THIS IS A DECISION WHICH WILL EXERCE  
FOR A LONG PERIOD AN INFLUENCE ON THE WORLD WIDE SITUA-  
TION AND FOR SECURITY AND INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

MISTER THE PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS, YOU  
WOULD LIKE PEACE AT ANY PRICE\* BUT SHOULD THIS PEACE  
BE PAID AT THE PRICE OF BETRAYAL AGAINST AN ALLIED AND  
FRIENDLY COUNTRY? SHOULD THIS PEACE BE ACHIEVED BY  
RUNNING AWAY FROM YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND BY RESIGNING  
IN FRONT OF THE COMMUNIST AGRESSION?

PARIS, APRIL 18 1975." END VERBATIM TEXT

2. COMMENT: THE STUDENTS HAD ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO  
MOUNT A LARGE DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE U.S. EMBASSY,

BUT THE GVN EMBASSY PERSUADED THEM TO SEND A POLITELY  
PHRASED NOTE TO US VIA A SMALL NUMBER OF REPRESENTA-  
TIVES AND TO MOUNT THE DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE NORTH  
VIETNAMESE EMBASSY INSTEAD. THE STUDENTS AGREED, AND  
ACCORDING TO FRENCH POLICE, A SIZEABLE NUMBER WERE  
DEMONSTRATING AT THE DRV EMBASSY WHILE THE ABOVE STUDENTS  
PRESENTED THEIR OPEN LETTER.

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STONE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, TEXT, STUDENTS, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIETNAMESE STUDENTS "OPEN LETTER" FOR AID TO GVN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, VS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006